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will say well it's hardly fair to change it. At some point it has to take effect. It seems to me if we decide to go with the rule change, it's more fair for it to take effect before the Committee on Committees is selected rather than after the fact. I think that is the reason that the amendment is being proposed, not necessarily because of any vote counting or any sort of thing of that sort, but simply in fairness to those who chose to get on the Committee on Committees that their responsibilities would not be changed after they were picked. So I think that the amendment makes sense in terms of if we are going to go this way it is more fair to let people know about it in advance rather than change the duties after the committee assignments are made.

SPEAKER MARVEL: Senator DeCamp, do you wish to be recognized?

SENATOR DeCAMP: Mr. President and members of the Legislature, just very briefly...when Senator Newell first proposed this idea I raised to him the very objections that Senator Fowler has mentioned. In other words, you're changing the rules of the game right when we're ready to start the game and nobody can anticipate it. At the request of Senator Newell and some other people then, I went and contacted Governor Thone and representatives of the Thone administration, and they quite frankly were the ones that proposed this change. They said they would have no opposition...no opposition if that was the policy the Legislature wanted to adopt 2 years from now, but they would be vehemently opposed to changing that policy at this time. As I say, I contacted Governor Thone directly, and he...he in fact brought up this...he and his people brought up this suggested change as a compromise that they felt they could live with, so I would just point this out to the body that they are aware of this and they said they don't care if this is the policy that wants to be adopted 2 years down the road, and Senator Newell took the attitude well if he puts it in the rules now for the 2 year, it's fair warning to everybody 2 years from now that at least that's the way we intend...or he intends...the Legislature intends to start out.

SPEAKER MARVEL: Senator Lewis, do you wish to be recognized on this?

SENATOR LEWIS: Mr. Speaker and members of the Legislature, I think we ought to be candid about the issue before us and understand where we are. Senator Newell wanted to make this kind of rule change last session. I told him I did not think that was in the proper timing sequence at that point. Well Senator Newell came back with a proposal again this time and again based on the concern of trying to provide the necessary